Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter that comprises first and second DC power sources, wherein a pole is formed by connecting a positive pole of the first DC power source with a negative pole of the second DC power source, and voltage is applied to a load by ~~switching~~ operating switches between ~~the~~ a negative pole of the first DC power source and ~~the~~ a positive pole of the second DC power source[[;]], the method comprising:

generating a voltage command indicative of a voltage to be applied to the load; and

switching a pole to be connected to the load by:

~~determining conductivity of~~ operating a switch between the positive and the negative poles of the first DC power source when the voltage command is lower than ~~the~~ an electric potential ~~output by~~ of the negative pole of the second DC power source; and

~~determining conductivity of~~ operating a switch between the positive and the negative poles of the second DC power source when the ~~aforementioned~~ voltage command is higher than the electric potential ~~output by~~ of the negative pole of the second DC power source~~; and switching the pole to be connected to the load in accordance with the aforementioned determining~~.

2. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 1, ~~wherein the control method uses two carriers, a first lower carrier and a second upper carrier,~~ further comprising:

setting a lower limit of ~~the~~ a lower carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the negative pole of the first DC power ~~source's negative pole~~ source;

setting an upper limit of the lower carrier and a lower limit of ~~the~~ an upper carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of a pole formed by connecting the positive pole of the first DC power source with the negative pole of the second DC power source; and

setting ~~the~~ an upper limit of the upper carrier to the an electric potential of the

positive pole of the second DC power ~~source's positive pole~~ source.

3. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim [[1]] 2 wherein the lower carrier and the upper carrier are triangular waves.

4. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 1, further comprising:

generating a power distribution command based on a desired power distribution ~~commands~~ for at least ~~said~~ the first and the second DC power sources; and

generating [[a]] an AC voltage command ~~for said power converter~~ based on the load; and wherein generating ~~a~~ the voltage command ~~by~~ includes adding ~~said~~ the AC voltage command to ~~said~~ the power distribution command.

5. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter that comprises first and second DC power sources, wherein a pole is formed by connecting a positive pole of the first DC power source with a negative pole of the second DC power source, and voltage is applied to a load by ~~switching~~ operating switches between ~~the~~ a negative pole of the first DC power source and ~~the~~ a positive pole of the second DC power source, ~~using two carriers consisting of a lower carrier and a higher carrier;~~ the method comprising:

generating a voltage command indicative of a voltage to be applied to the load; and

switching a pole to be connected to the load by:

~~determining conductivity of~~ operating a switch between the positive and the negative poles of the first DC power source by comparing the voltage command with ~~the~~ a lower carrier; and

~~determining conductivity of~~ operating a switch between the positive and the negative poles of the second DC power source by comparing the voltage command with ~~the~~ an upper carrier~~; and~~

~~switching the pole to be connected to the load in accordance with the determining~~.

6. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 5, further comprising:

setting a lower limit of the lower carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the negative pole of the first DC power ~~source's negative pole~~ source;

setting an upper limit of the lower carrier and a lower limit of the upper carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of a pole formed by connecting the positive pole of the first DC power source with the negative pole of the second DC power source; and

setting ~~the~~ an upper limit of the upper carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the positive pole of the second DC power ~~source's positive pole~~ source.

7. (Original) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 5 wherein the lower carrier and the upper carrier are triangular waves.

8. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 5, further comprising:

generating a power distribution command based on a desired power distribution ~~commands for~~ between at least ~~said~~ the first and the second DC power sources; and

generating [[a]] an AC voltage command ~~for said power converter~~ based on the load; and wherein generating ~~a~~ the voltage command ~~by~~ includes adding ~~said~~ the AC voltage command to ~~said~~ the power distribution command.

9. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter having first and second DC power sources, ~~using two carriers consisting of a lower carrier and a higher carrier, wherein~~ a common pole ~~is~~ formed by connecting a positive pole of ~~said~~ the first DC power source and a negative pole of ~~said~~ the second DC power source to a common bus

line[[;]], a first switching element ~~is~~ provided between a negative pole of the first DC power source ~~bus line~~ and an output terminal of a load to provide conductance from the output terminal to a negative pole of the first DC power source ~~bus line;~~, a first diode ~~is~~ connected in parallel with the first switching element[[;]], a first bi-directional switch ~~is~~ provided for selecting bi-directional conductance between the output terminal and the common bus line[[;]], and a second bi-directional switch ~~is~~ provided for selecting bi-directional conductance between the output terminal and ~~the~~ a positive pole of the second DC power source ~~bus line; and voltage is applied to the load by switching the pole to be connected to the load;~~, the method comprising:

generating a voltage command indicative of a voltage to be applied to the load; and

switching a pole to be connected to the load by:

~~determining conductivity of~~ operating a switch between the positive pole and the negative ~~poles~~ pole of the first DC power source by comparing the voltage command with ~~the~~ a lower carrier; and

~~determining conductivity of~~ operating a switch between the positive pole and the negative ~~poles~~ pole of the second DC power source by comparing ~~said~~ the voltage command with ~~the~~ an upper carrier~~; and~~

~~switching the pole to be connected to the load in accordance with the determining conductivity~~.

10. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 9, further comprising:

setting a lower limit of the lower carrier to the an electric potential of the ~~first DC power source's~~ negative pole of the first DC power source;

setting an upper limit of the lower carrier and a lower limit of the upper carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of [[a]] the common pole ~~formed by connecting the positive pole of the first DC power source with the negative pole of the second DC power source~~; and

setting ~~the~~ an upper limit of the upper carrier to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the

~~second DC power source's~~ positive pole <u>of the second DC power source</u>.

11. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim [[9]] <u>10</u> wherein the lower carrier and the upper carrier are triangular waves.

12. (Currently amended) A control method for an electric power converter described in claim 9, further comprising:

generating a power distribution command based on <u>a desired</u> power distribution ~~commands for~~ <u>between</u> at least ~~said~~ <u>the</u> first and <u>the</u> second DC power sources; <u>and</u>

generating [[a]] <u>an AC</u> voltage command ~~for said power converter~~ <u>based on the load</u>; ~~and~~ <u>wherein</u> generating ~~a~~ <u>the</u> voltage command ~~by~~ <u>includes</u> adding ~~said~~ <u>the AC</u> voltage command to ~~said~~ <u>the</u> power distribution command.

13. (Currently amended) A power converter <u>for supplying power to a three-phase load</u>, comprising:

a first DC power source;

a second DC power source;

a common bus line connected to a positive pole of the first DC power source and to a negative pole of the second DC power source;

a first plurality of semiconductor switches connected between a negative pole of the first DC power source and each of three terminals of [[a]] <u>the</u> three-phase load;

a second plurality of semiconductor switches connected between the common bus line and each of the three terminals of the three-phase load;

a third plurality of semiconductor switches connected between a positive ~~bus line~~ <u>pole</u> of the second DC power source and each of the three terminals of the three-phase load;

<u>a voltage command generating portion configured to generate a voltage command indicative of a voltage to be applied to each of the three terminals of the three-phase load;</u> and

a switch control portion ~~that performs conductance of the~~ <u>configured to switch a</u>

pole to be connected to the three-phase load by operating a switch connected between the positive pole and the negative ~~poles~~ pole of the first DC power source when the voltage command ~~from said voltage command generating portion~~ is lower than ~~the~~ an electric potential ~~output by~~ of the negative pole of the second DC power source and ~~performs conductance of the~~ operating a switch connected between the positive pole and the negative ~~poles~~ pole of the second DC power source when the voltage command ~~from the voltage command portion~~ is higher than the electric potential ~~output by~~ of the negative pole of the second DC power source.

14. (Currently amended) A power converter of claim 13, wherein the switch control portion is ~~provided with two carriers comprising a lower carrier and an upper carrier, wherein conductance of~~ further configured to operate the switch connected between the positive pole and the negative ~~poles~~ pole of ~~said~~ the first DC power source ~~is performed~~ by comparing the voltage command ~~value~~ and the lower carrier, and ~~conductance of~~ to operate the switch connected between the positive pole and the negative ~~poles~~ pole of ~~said~~ the second DC power source ~~is performed~~ by comparing the voltage command ~~value~~ and the upper carrier.

15. (Currently amended) A power converter of claim 14, wherein a lower limit of the lower carrier is set to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the ~~first DC power source's~~ negative pole of the first DC power source, [[a]] an upper limit of the lower carrier and a lower limit of the upper carrier are set to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the ~~pole formed by connecting the positive pole of the first DC power source with the negative pole of the second DC power source~~ common bus line, and [[a]] an upper limit of the upper carrier is set to ~~the~~ an electric potential of the ~~second DC power source's~~ positive pole of the second DC power source.

16. (Original) A power converter of claim 14, wherein the lower carrier and the upper carrier are triangular waves.

17. (Currently amended) A power converter of claim 13, wherein each of the

second and the third plurality of semiconductor switches ~~comprise~~ comprises switch pairs for controlling bi-directional ~~conductance~~ conduction.

18. (Currently amended) A power converter of claim 13, and further comprising:

a power distribution command generating portion ~~that generates~~ configured to generate a power distribution command based on ~~the~~ a desired power distribution ~~commands for~~ between the first and second DC power sources, wherein ~~a~~ the voltage command ~~that is obtained by adding~~ is based on addition of the power distribution command and ~~the~~ an AC voltage command ~~is applied to the switch control portion~~ based on the load.